

MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY,  
MAIN GATE  
580 Mount Auburn Street  
Cambridge  
Middlesex County  
Massachusetts

HABS NO. MA-1216

HABS  
MASS,  
9. CAMB,  
70-

PHOTOGRAPHS AND  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service

Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HABS  
MASS,  
9-CAMB,  
70-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Massachusetts	COUNTY Middlesex	TOWN OR VICINITY Cambridge
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY, MAIN GATE		HABS NO. MA-1216
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 580 Mount Auburn Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1843	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Dr. Jacob Bigelow	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) This gateway, which established the fashion for Egyptian Revival gateways in America, guards the entrance to one of the finest rural garden cemeteries in the country. In both design & concept it set the standard for numerous suburban burial grounds of the*		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Egyptian Revival		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Granite		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLDOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 25 foot high gateway		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE gate arch with egyptian carving and inscription, a free interpretation of temples at Dendorah and Thebes. Lotus flower capital columns, cavetto cornice with vulture and sun disk symbol.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLDOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES This was built to replace an identical original built of wood in 1832.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Good condition; cemetery gateway		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE *later part of the 19th century. Mount Auburn exerted an influence on American landscape design that extended beyond its leadership in establishing a new type of burial ground; it was Boston's first suburban park, influencing landscape architects of the day.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register nomination, prepared by Patricia Weslowski & Kathryn Hatch for Massachusetts Historical Commission, February 1975.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION C. Lavoie, historian, HABS/HAER		DATE February 1989

ADDENDUM TO:  
MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY, MAIN GATE  
580 Mount Auburn Street  
Cambridge  
Middlesex County  
Massachusetts

HABS MA-1216  
*MASS,9-CAMB,70-*

PAPER COPIES OF COLOR TRANSPARENCIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240-0001